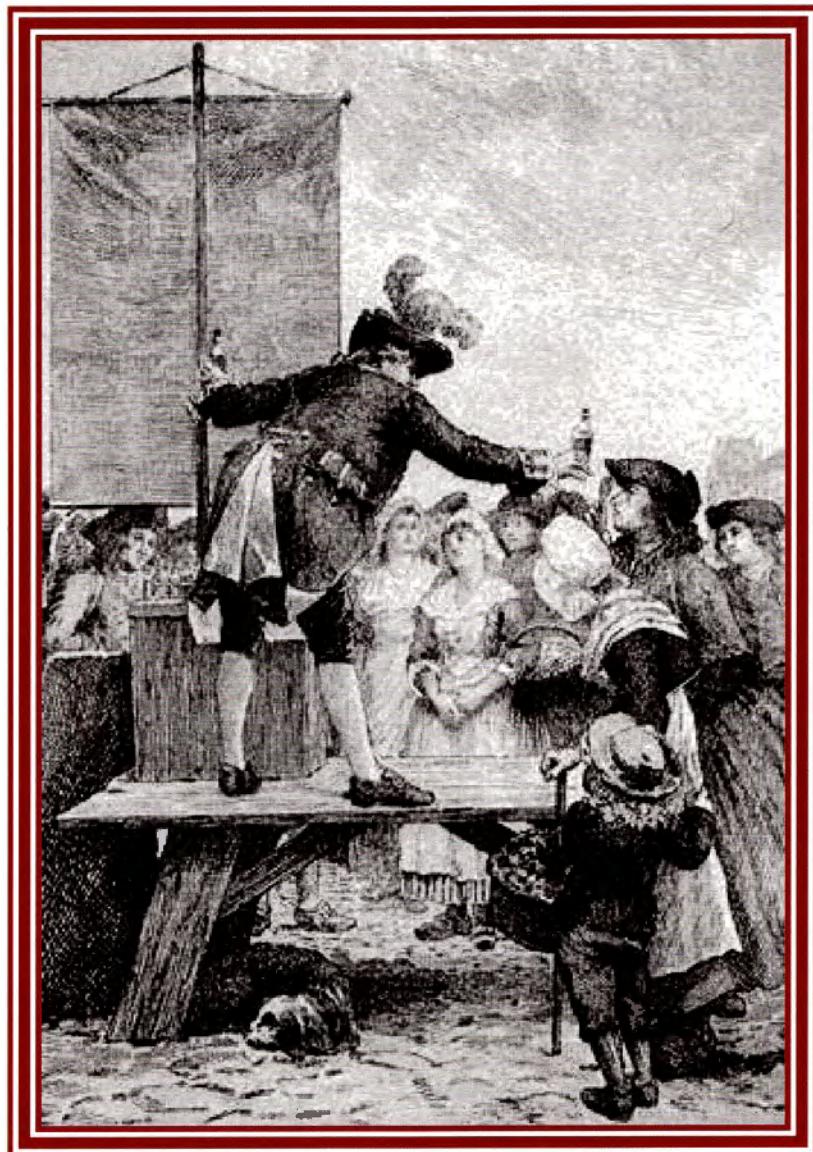
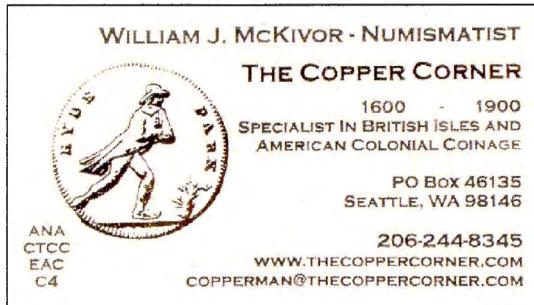


# THE “CONDER” TOKEN COLLECTOR’S JOURNAL

THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONDER TOKEN COLLECTOR’S CLUB  
Volume X Number 4 Winter , 2005/6 Consecutive Issue #38



*An Eighteenth Century Quack*



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Northumberland 1 by Gary Siro

## INTRODUCTION MICHAEL GROGAN

### 2006 MEMBER MEDALS

The club plans to produce a member medal for 2006 and asks for design suggestions to consider. Past medals have all been based on Conder token designs, but any suggestion is welcome. Please send your design ideas to me by March 1<sup>st</sup>.

### GEORGE SELGIN'S GOOD MONEY

Chapters from Dr. Selgin's book have appeared in the Journal and the completed book will soon be published. Copies will be available through the CTCC with a portion of the proceeds to benefit the club. George has also agreed to autograph copies for members. More details will be available in the next issue.

### PHIL FLANAGAN TOKEN AND BOOK SALES

Phil will be selling his token and book stock through Bill McKivor in a series of separate lists. Contact Bill for details and inquiries about available inventory.

### CONDER TOKENS CIRCULATING IN THE 1960'S

In his article "SOME REFLECTIONS ON PROVINCIAL COINAGE 1787-1797" BNJ 74 Page 174, David Dykes remarks in footnote 75 that Conder tokens could still be found in circulation as late as the 1960's in England. I wonder if the makers of these tokens ever imagined them still serving as money some 170 years later! This article and several other excellent articles by David Dykes are available for loan from the CTCC Library.

### SEARCH CAPABILITY ADDED TO THE CLUB WEBSITE

Our website [www.conderclub.org](http://www.conderclub.org) now has "search the site" capability. This will be useful to anyone looking for specific information among the various articles and exhibits.

### ARTICLES NEEDED

As always, your original article is needed for the Journal. You need not be a Conder scholar to contribute and become a published author. I will be delighted to help any member begin or polish an article.....that is what an Editor does! In addition to the pleasures of writing the article, contributors to each issue receive a special edition full color cover on their copy of the Journal.

### ON THE COVER

A quack medicine seller peddles his potions on the street in this eighteenth century engraving. This was a common sight in Conder token times and Middlesex tokens by Burchell, Ching, and Swainson associated with the practice are described and discussed in this issue.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Every year brings change, and 2006 will be no exception.

1. Welcome Gary Siro, the new publisher of the CTCC journal. Gary has volunteered to take over the job Harold Welch has been doing for so long and so well. In fact, this is actually the second journal issue which Gary has published. We are thrilled to have a long time club member take over this job. Harold Welch will continue as our club librarian and U.S. vice-president.
2. Welcome Rachel Irish, our new CTCC membership chair. As our clubs first paid professional, Rachel has taken over all duties direct and ancillary to CTCC membership. She worked in the convention department for the American Numismatic Association for many years, and we are now quite fortunate to have her with us.

### SIGNIFICANT CHANGES:

If you send your CTCC annual dues by mail in US dollars, ALL such payments are now to be sent directly to Rachel Irish (address below). All things membership, including address changes, dues payments, assigning CTCC numbers, new memberships, etc., will be handled by Rachel.

IF you pay your dues via PayPal, please continue to send them to [scottloos@msn.com](mailto:scottloos@msn.com) as always.

IF you pay your dues in Pounds Sterling, please continue to send them to Alan Judd as always.

All other club positions will remain the same.

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Meet Rachel Irish-

Over the years I have had a variety of jobs. I started my professional career as an elementary school teacher and then moved on to database administration, volunteer management and event planning. I left my most recent position with the ANA convention department when my husband was offered a job in our home state of Idaho. It was an opportunity we couldn't pass up. I so enjoyed working with all the people I met while at ANA that I decided to start my own business providing membership support for clubs. I am pleased to provide my services to the Conder Token Collectors Club. Please let me know if you have suggestions or questions.

# Noble Without Nobility

By R.C. Bell

Newcastle upon Tyne, England

Charles, third earl of Stanhope, philosopher, scientist, author and politician, was one of a number of talented individuals who lived at the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century and enjoyed eminence in a multiplicity of pursuits. He was born August 3, 1753: the second son of Philip, Earl Stanhope. His elder brother Philip died in 1763, and Charles inherited the title on his father's death in 1786.

When Charles was eight he was sent to school at Eton, but after two years was removed to Geneva, and there his education was entrusted to M. le Sage. Charles disliked classical studies, but became engrossed in experimental philosophy; and when 17 won a prize awarded by the Swedish Society of Arts and Sciences for the best treatise on the structure of the pendulum. His lordship's essay was written in French.

He excelled in athletics and equestrian exercises and enrolled in the Genevois Militia, becoming so expert a marksman with a rifle barrelled gun that he could hit a shilling many times in succession at the proper distance.

He was a candidate for the city of Westminster in the general election of 1774, but withdrew after several days in favor of his competitors. In 1775 he published a small tract on "Considerations on the Means of Preventing Fraudulent Practices on the Gold Coin", recommending methods of coinage exceedingly difficult to imitate.

In 1777 he experimented in the best and cheapest method of preventing the spread of fire in buildings, working upon the principle that fire cannot exist in the absence of a current of air. This

was exemplified by taking a strip of paper about a inch wide and wrapping it tightly around a poker so that no air can enter between the poker and the paper; when a candle flame can be applied to the paper indefinitely without it catching alight; but if the paper becomes loose, allowing air between it and the iron it will burst into flames.



Note legend "Stanhope Noble without Nobility" meaning noble born, but without the pride of aristocracy. (D&H Middlesex 1040, obverse)

At his home, Chevening in Kent, his lordship protected a room on this principle; and then sat in it with his brother-in-law, the prime minister, William Pitt; Lord Catham; the Lord Mayor of London; the president of the Royal Society; and many other distinguished individuals; consuming ice cream; while in the room below servants tended the largest fire that could be made; the exalted company above being protected from the flames only by a wooden floor made safe upon his lordship's plan.

A few years later a fire broke out in Chevening house, and several unprotected rooms were destroyed, but the fire stopped short at those made fire-proof. Part of a beam exhibiting the effect of Stanhope's protective

composition was deposited in the archives of the Royal Society.



Edmund Burke, M.P., author of "Reflections on the French Revolution." (D&H Yorkshire 3)

His lordship also experimented in the production of lime using a kiln similar to a wind furnace, the extra heat vitrifying the lime and making it more durable than ordinary mortar. Other inventions included a method of covering roofs with a composition of tar, chalk and fine sand; thus permitting the construction of a flat roof, and attic rooms equal to rooms in the rest of the house. He used a similar composition of tar and pounded chalk to seal wounds in trees following breaking of branches.

About 1777 he invented several arithmetical machines. The first and smallest was about the size of an octavo volume, and with it calculations of simple and compound addition and subtraction were quickly performed by means of dial-plates and small indices moved with a steel pin. His second machine was half the size of a writing desk, and solved problems in multiplication and division by turning a small winch. If the operator turned the handle too far a small ivory ball sprang up, indicating the error.

In 1779 he published a small quarto volume: "Principles of Electricity" and outlined a method of

protecting buildings from lightning. About this time he became involved in reform in representation in the House of Commons; and later was elected member of Parliament for the borough of Wycombe. He joined the opposition in their efforts to end the American war, and attended every debate when the cause of American liberty and independence was under discussion.



Penny, possibly issued by the Revolution Society. The bust is of William III. (D&H Middlesex 199)

He also made several unsuccessful attempts to prevent bribery, corruption, and unnecessary expense at Parliamentary elections, from 1783 until 1786 when he took his seat in the House of Lords on his father's death. In 1789 he spoke at considerable length against various statutes punishing those who dissented from the established religion of the country. A few of these may interest modern readers:

~ One stated that every person was to go to church every Sunday and holiday, or forfeit one shilling.

~Another inflicted a penalty of £20, or the forfeiture of two-thirds of the offender's property, at the prosecutor's option, for any person absent from church for a month.

~Another enacted that every person who refused to go to church should be committed to prison until he died.

~Another that every person should pay 10 pounds per month for every servant, for every visitor, and for the servant of any visitor, in his or her own house, who did not go to church.

Stanhope believed no man had the right to oppress another; that liberty of conscience, freedom in matters of religion, and the right of private judgment were the prerogative of everyone. His bill, embodying these concepts was debated in the House. At one point Stanhope remarked: "...if the right reverend Bench of Bishops would not suffer him to load away their rubbish by cartfuls, he would endeavor to carry it away in wheel-barrows, and if that mode of removal were resisted, he would take it away, if possible, with a spade a little at a time." His bill was rejected.



Obverse of D&H Middlesex 1040.

In 1788 he joined with a number of respectable gentlemen to celebrate the centenary of the Revolution in England of 1688, and they formed a 'Revolution

Society', whose committee corresponded with other societies, meeting in different parts of the kingdom for the same purposes of '...causing the principles of the Revolution to be understood, spread, and maintained, thus preserving the glorious fabric of the British Constitution; and to transmit public freedom to posterity'.

At the first annual meeting of the Revolution Society on November 4, 1789, Earl Stanhope was called to the chair. The capture of the Bastille by the citizens of Paris four months earlier was hailed by the society as a glorious advance in the history of mankind, and the speeches were made congratulating the National Assembly of France; and it was hoped that the overthrow of the monarchy would unite the two countries.



Charles James Fox, leader of the Whig opposition. (D&H Middlesex 223, obverse)

In February 1790, Edmund Burke attacked the French Revolution in the House of Commons, and also accused the Revolution Society of being an underground conspiracy to follow France. Stanhope replied in a letter defending the happenings in France, and the society in London.

About this time Stanhope began experimenting with the steam propulsion of ships; a research project lasting about six years and involving the expenditure of a large sum of money and the

construction of four vessels of different sizes at Rotherhithe; but nothing came of the venture. In 1792 Charles Fox introduced his famous Libel Bill into the House of Commons, and Earl Stanhope defended it in all its stages in the House of Lords.

In January 1793 the Tower of London was fortified; the French ambassador ordered to leave the kingdom; and preparations made for war against the French. Stanhope opposed all these measures; and moved a motion trying to avoid a clash between the two nations. His motion was defeated and at the division he stood alone; an occurrence repeated on other occasions, earning for him the title of the 'Minority of One.'

In one of his speeches he quoted part of a poem on death which will bear repeating here: and is apposite to our own times:

"One murder makes a villain,  
Millions a hero: Princes are privileg'd  
To kill, and numbers sanctify the crime.  
Ah, why will Kings forget that they are  
men?  
And men that they are brethern? Why  
delight  
In human sacrifice? Why burst the ties  
Of Nature, that should knit their souls  
together  
In one soft bond of amity and love?  
They yet still breathe destruction, still go  
on,  
Inhumanly ingenious, to find out  
New pains for life – new terrors for the  
grave!  
Artificers of death! Still monarchs dream  
Of universal empire growing up  
From universal ruin. Blast the design,  
Great God of Hosts! Nor let they  
creatures fall  
Unpitied victims at Ambition's shrine!"



William Pitt, prime minister and Earl Stanhope's brother-in-law. One of the ice-cream party. (D&H Middlesex 210, obverse)

In 1795 Earl Stanhope took formal leave of the House of Lords, feeling that he had nothing to offer his country during the war against France, with which he was in complete disagreement. He did not return until 1800, when he again spoke against the evils arising from hostilities with France. His motion was rejected by an immense majority.

Earl Stanhope married twice, his first wife, Lady Hester Pitt, the sister of the prime minister, presented him with three daughters. His second wife, Louisa Grenville, gave him three sons. He died December 15, 1816, at Chevening in Kent.



Chevening House  
[www.bullfinchclose.co.uk](http://www.bullfinchclose.co.uk)

## THREE CONDER QUACKS

Michael Grogan

In his famous eighteenth century dictionary, Samuel Johnson defined “to quack” as “to cry like a duck, to chatter boastingly, to brag loudly, to talk ostentatiously”. Also according to Johnson, a “Quack” is “a boastful pretender to arts which he does not understand, a vain boastful pretender to physick, one who proclaims his own medical abilities in publick places, an artful tricking practitioner in physick.”

Quackery has existed since very ancient times and began to flourish in England in the sixteenth century, reaching its Golden Age in the eighteenth century. Quack doctors sold their dubious compounds and devices on the streets or through inns, taverns, and pharmacies to unfortunate sufferers of every class. Given the state of medical science, it is not surprising that many people bought these remedies instead of visiting a physician. Until the middle of the eighteenth century one had a better chance of survival if they chose not to see a doctor. Treatment for most medical complaints was usually bleeding or a dose of a strong purgative such as calomel [mercurous chloride]. The Industrial Revolution would bring great advances in medicine, technology, and hygiene but for the vast majority of citizens in the 1790’s a bottle of something like Isaac Swainson’s Vegetable Syrup seemed their best hope of a cure.

At least three Conder tokens from Middlesex have a relationship to quackery: Burchell’s Anodyne Necklace and Sugar Plumbs for Worms, Ching’s Worm Lozenges, and Swainson’s Vegetable Syrup.



Middlesex 261 (RR)

Image by Gary Siro

The Burchell tokens [Middlesex 258-274] advertise two quack remedies, sugar plumbs for worms and the anodyne necklace for teething infants. Burchell’s sugar plumbs were probably mercury concoctions like so many preparations of the time and were popular

enough to last until at least 1830 when they are listed in the House of Commons Journal along with the anodyne necklace and many other medicines. "Plumbs" is an obsolete spelling of "plums", unusual even in Burchell's time.

The anodyne necklace was made of peony wood and sold for 5 shillings. Most of Burchell's tokens were made holed to be attached to the necklace and can be found today bearing tooth marks inflicted by Georgian infants. The necklace was claimed to be so effective that "...children who have so worn them, have been stronger at nine months than them of twelve".

The tokens were made by Lutwyche from dies by Arnold. Middlesex 274 bears the unique edge inscription "THIS IS NOT A COIN BUT A MEDAL", probably to relieve Basil Burchell of any obligation to redeem them.



**Middlesex 282**

Image by Gary Siro

John Ching's token [Middlesex 282] immodestly advertises his worm lozenges as "THE BEST MEDICINE IN THE WORLD" in its extensive obverse legend. The Royal arms of England are on the reverse, perhaps meant to imply official endorsement of his product. The lozenges came in two colors, yellow to be taken at night and brown for daytime use. He patented his product in 1800 and at least one death by mercury poisoning is attributed to their use. No one knows the actual number of poisoned users.

Despite this, Ching's business prospered well into the nineteenth century and is included in the House of Commons Journal medicine listing of 1830 between Chilblain Water and Chinner's Pills. Bell's Weekly Messenger from July 3, 1831 declares "The more usual symptoms of Worms are Fits, Pains in the Stomach, Side and Head, and a pale languid, and emaciated appearance in the patient. The extraordinary efficacy of CHING'S WORM LOZENGES in all such complaints, as well as obstructions in the Bowels, and every disorder where opening or cleansing physic is required, is so universally known, and has been publicly acknowledged by so many persons of distinction and rank in society, that it is unnecessary here to enlarge on their peculiar virtues."

The Ching tokens were manufactured by Kempson from dies by Wyon. Bell and Samuel give the mintage as five hundredweights; Waters is more specific at 25,750 pieces.

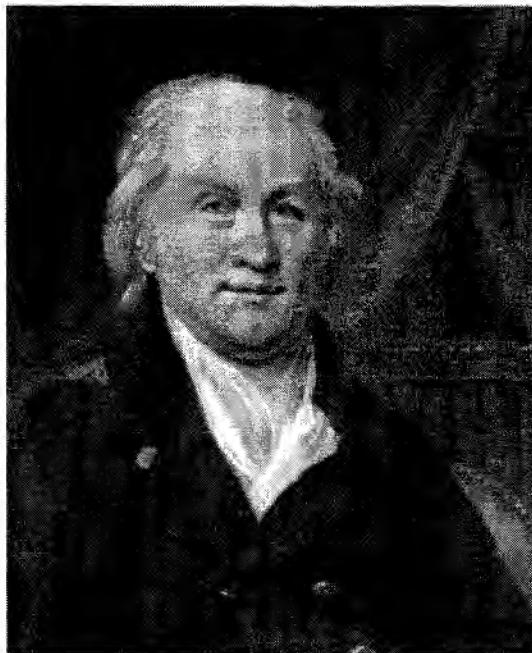


Image by Joel Spingarn

Isaac Swainson's token [Middlesex 907] is a handsome design unfortunately marred by the misspelling of his name as "Suainson". The discovery of this error was the reason for its very small mintage. Samuel says about a dozen pieces were made but, according to Bell, more recent information indicates a mintage of eighteen tokens. The reverse features the goddess of health, Hygeia, preparing a batch of Swainson's famous vegetable syrup. Boulton manufactured the tokens from dies by Ponthon. Matthew Young later acquired the dies and muled the reverse with an unused pattern die depicting the Prince of Wales to create Ayrshire 8.

Swainson's "Vegetable Syrup of De Velnos" was prepared from a formula he purchased from one Dr. Mercier of Soho. Velnos is the name of an obscure Indo-European deity. The formula differed from most medicines of the time in that it did not contain mercury, a fact used aggressively in Swainson's marketing strategy. The syrup sold for thirteen shillings a bottle and Swainson was said to enjoy profits of £5000 per year. Although Isaac Swainson died in 1812, his product's popularity continued at least until 1830 when it was included in The House of Commons Journal medicines list.

The term "quack" may be a bit harshly applied to Isaac Swainson since he was also a serious scientist. He took an MD degree in 1785 and is best remembered as a leading botanist of the time. An Australian desert pea, now the floral emblem of South Australia, is named for him [*Swainsonia formosa*] and his gardens at Twickenham were greatly admired. In 1811 they were described as "Scientifically arranged and elegantly laid out, which may be considered as the first private collection of the kind in the kingdom and J C Loudon wrote that It contained every tree and shrub that could be procured at the time in British nurseries, and was kept in the first style of order and neatness".



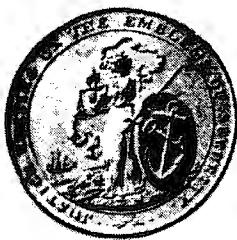
Isaac Swainson, 1803  
From The Twickenham Museum

Britain's Natural History Museum today houses 11,325 plates and original drawings of plants collected by Swainson during his lifetime [1746-1812]. Although his fortune was made selling a quack concoction, Swainson's scientific contributions were of significant and lasting value.

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## Military Motifs

Tom Fredette

Two recently written histories, 1776 by David McCullough and John Paul Jones by Evan Thomas, concern aspects of life in the armed forces of Great Britain during the latter part of the eighteenth century. And military life happens to be a subject portrayed on "conders" and as such is not an inappropriate subject for discussion. By 1776, Great Britain had a great deal of experience as a nation at war from time to time and a number of tokens in this series reflect that heritage.

Portrayed on many of them, George the Third of the British Empire and George Washington, newly elected president of the United States of America, admired and reviled alternately as the leaders in the American war for independence, had just gone through a conflict in which, depending upon which side of the ocean you lived, terror played a major part. (See Gregg Moore's timely reference in Issue No. 36.) The British had branded the Sons of Liberty as terrorists, for instance, and many Americans thought of Hessian mercenaries in this way. Keeping this in mind, let us look at some of the token designs which reflect warlike aspects of life in late eighteenth century Britain and take note of the attitudes and actions they portray.



We tend to think of military forces in three-dimensional ways now. But we are reminded that in the late eighteenth century, warfare from the air was practically unthought of. So in addition to the previously mentioned national leaders, we need only to concern ourselves with tokens which appear in several other categories. These refer to the British army and the British navy ("the wooden walls") and those which appear in generic motifs depicting trophies, flags and famous victories and military encounters.

According to Dalton and Hamer, Thomas Spence issued two examples of tokens which show us soldiers which would be good representations of the British army of this time. In their introduction to this portion of the Middlesex series, they tell us that the designs of these tokens were "...intended to give publicity to the political sentiments which he advocated." These were also very American sentiments.

Middlesex No. 681 depicts "Three citizens armed" with the inscription "who know their rights and knowing dare maintain." "Three citizens armed" would remind one of citizen-soldiers or militia, but these citizen-soldiers look like regular soldiers to this writer. Middlesex No. 691 shows us "A soldier shaking hands with two citizens" with the inscription "we also are the people." In his recent history, McCullough provides us with this description of the late eighteenth century British soldier:

The average British regular was in his late twenties...The harsh life was their way of life. They carried themselves like soldiers. They had rules, regulations and traditions down pat. They were proud to serve in his Majesty's army, proud of the uniform and fiercely proud of and loyal to their regiments.

On the move, seen from a distance, they looked glorious in their red coats and crossbelts, marching rank on rank, their huge battle flags flying atop ten-foot poles. Seen up close, however, the red coats, waist length in the front, longer at the back, were often faded and out at the elbows. Cuffs were frayed, knees patched, stockings or marching gaiters often torn beyond mending, try as each man would to look the part.

Departing from the Middlesex issues, Norfolk token No. 3 shows us a more traditional view of the British soldier "carrying arms before a range of tents." This token would probably serve as a good guide and would help us follow McCullough's description of those men who had taken the King's shilling.

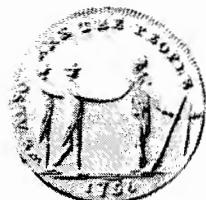


Three citizens armed. WHO KNOW  
THEIR RIGHTS AND KNOWING DARE  
MAINTAIN.

MIDDLESEX.

SPENCE'S.

WE ALSO ARE THE PEOPLE.



NORWICH.

O: A soldier carrying arms in front of a range of tents, Norwich Castle and Cathedral in the distance.  
NORWICH . LOYAL . MILITARY  
ASSOCIATION . 1797.

R: The arms of Norwich and military ensigns. PATRIE . ET . DECUS  
ET . TUTAMEN .



A sailor seizing a landsman.

Since 1776 deals primarily with land battles fought by the British army we can turn to Evan Thomas' John Paul Jones for a description of life in the British navy during the last decades of the eighteenth century. Thomas writes that:

In the eighteenth century many boys went to sea by the age of thirteen. If (they) waited any longer, the philosopher of the age Dr. Johnson observed, they wouldn't go. No right-minded adult would volunteer to go to sea. Shipboard life was too awful. A ship rolled and tossed enough to send most of her crew to the leeward side to vomit. Below decks would stink of unwashed men and bilge water. Sailors had a daily monotonous diet of salt beef, biscuits and beans. Dampness was inescapable: wool clothes caked with salt held moisture for days. Being sent aloft to learn how to reef and furl a sail was dangerous and a fall frequently meant death. And the lash was always an effective tool which, as in the British army, reminded one that harsh, physical discipline was the way of life aboard a British ship in His Majesty's navy.

So in contrast to a British soldier who frequently could fend for himself on land, life for a British sailor was, by its nature, restricted to what could be had and what could be done aboard ship. Spence once again provides us with an ironic vignette and inscription on his Middlesex issues of Nos. 725-39. The tokens show what appears to be the act of impressment which this writer would suggest is an act of terror. The inscription: "A sailor seizing a landsman" implies this. Spence also shows us a "Sailor (True-hearted)" striking a pose in which he seems to be begging for alms in Middlesex obverses 857-58. Middlesex No. 277, from Chelsea, depicts the figure of "sailor with a wooden leg presenting a petition to Britannia." The figure of Hope graces the reverse. And while there may be other more benign naval motifs showing sailors in the late eighteenth series (such as Northumberland No. 3) these three seem to parallel Thomas' description nicely.

#### Northumberland.

ALNWICK.



A sailor.



A TRUE HEARTED SAILOR.



#### Middlesex.

SPENCE'S.

Finally, a third category of "conders" with other military references would be of interest. These tokens show us displays of the trophy's of war, naval men-of-war, references to victories and the well-known naval farthings of Hampshire. Since Britain was primarily a naval nation ("Britannia rules the waves") it makes sense that many of the images, such as an anchor, are specific to that service.

An excellent example of military trophies is shown to us on Somersetshire No. 84, a Bath issue. The dominant image of a cannon flanked by flags seems to this writer to refer more to the British army than navy. The Latin inscription "Pro Rege et Patria" ("For King and Country") implies the pride felt by a display of this nature. Admiral Howe's obverse portrait and a reverse reference to his June 1, 1794 victory during the Napoleonic Wars gives us a two-for-one look at other general military motifs. And "A naval man-of-war sailing" is shown on Hampshire No. 79 from Portsea. We see St. George and the Dragon on the obverse. The Hampshire series is rich in naval imagery.

#### Somersetshire.

BATH.



Military trophy. PRO REGE ET  
PATRIA \* \* BATH ASSOCIATION \*  
1798.

#### Hampshire. PORTSEA.



The subject of military motifs is a vast and, unfortunately, always appropriate one in this age and any age. The two books mentioned as the inspiration for this article help us appreciate and see even better the connections between life in the late eighteenth century and life in the twenty-first. Military life then and now, equally rigorous as well as dangerous, was in many ways also glorious. This glory is well celebrated on many of our "conders."

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## Maldon (D&H Essex 35)

Tony Fox (CTCC #439)

Maldon is on an inlet that is sheltered from the North Sea. The estuary is quite silted as the result of receiving the Rivers Pant (modernly Blackwater) and Chelmer. This silting has created large areas of mudflats and low islands, one of which achieves especial historical significance (see Figure 1).

Maldon has a history that goes back at least as far as the Roman occupation. Indeed, it may only be the lack of archaeological exploration so far that makes Maldon not yet at least as old as Colchester (Essex), which is the oldest continually occupied town in England. But at Maldon we at least have clear evidence of Roman occupation, with wharfage at Heybridge.

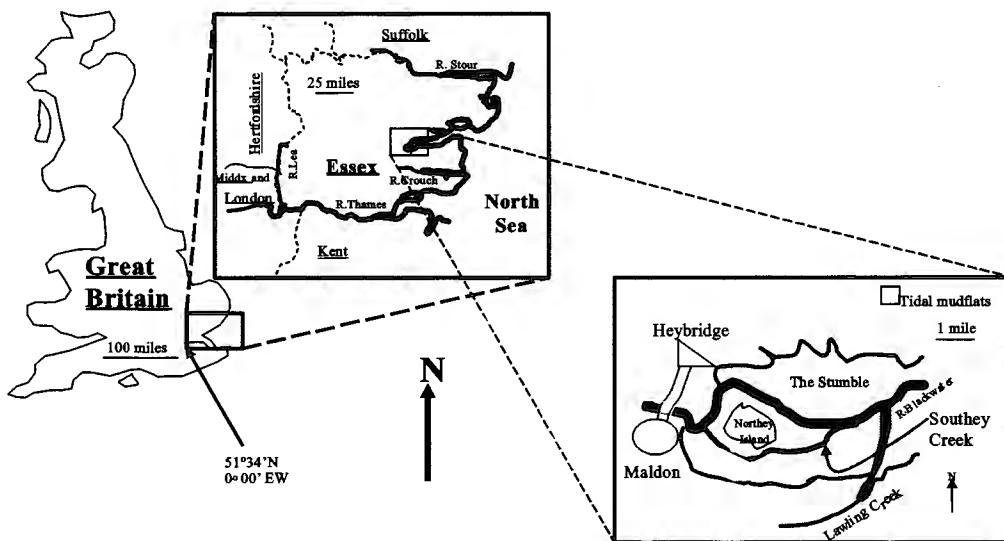


Figure 1: Maldon and Heybridge, Essex

No mint is known at Maldon until the time of the Anglo-saxons (about 900-1000 AD). The silver pennies of King Canute (1016-1032 or so) minted in Maldon are reasonably easy to obtain. Interestingly, they are commonly found in Scandinavia because they were included in the large bribes that were paid during those turbulent decades to the Vikings, in order for them to leave the British alone (the so-called 'Danegeld'). One of the battles against the Vikings took place at the tidal causeway between Northey Island and the mainland to the SE of Maldon on 11<sup>th</sup> August 991 AD. The Vikings won, and this is recorded in an Old English poem "*The Battle of Maldon*", of which two lines are:

*Paet he on eordan feoll and daer Gaddes maeg grung gesoehte*

So that he to the earth fell and there Gadde's kinsman [also] the ground sought  
For those studying Old English, and *pace* Woody Allen, this is a much more interesting  
text than *Beowulf*!<sup>1</sup> But, happily, we are more than seven centuries after all that  
unpleasantness when we come to consider the late eighteenth century Conder that has  
been attributed to Maldon.

D&H assigned the coat of arms of the Borough of Maldon as the obverse of this token  
with its stereotypical "Success to the.." legend. There can be no doubt that this one really  
was intended for the place whose name it carries. D&H gives the reverse as the coat of  
arms of the Watchmakers' Company of the City of London. While this reverse  
complements the edge legend of Essex no.35: "PAYABLE AT W. DRAPERS  
WATCHMAKER MALDON ESSEX X X", there are problems with the heraldry, as  
discussed below. D&H nominate 'Davies' as the engraver and 'Good' as the  
manufacturer (Figure 2).

Although probably reasonably described as scarce, the three examples of D&H Essex 35  
in the author's collection are all about uncirculated. They vary, however, in their patina,  
with one having some original lustre, and the worst being uniformly a deep chocolate  
tone. The absence of wear on all three specimens is not consistent with their use as  
currency, and watchmakers typically conduct retail transactions at some large multiple of  
a half penny. Could this have been a failed business diversification for Mr. Drapers the  
watchmaker?

Another feature of these three specimens is that none carry full stops (periods) before and  
after the 'X X' as appears in D&H. We have run into this problem of dots among  
crosses before.<sup>2</sup> Furthermore, there are no hints of die cracks or other differences  
between these three. The first X on the edge is more deeply incuse than the second one  
on all three specimens. These are all signs of a small issue. But if a club member has a  
non-uniform example, then that would very likely be extremely rare, and an addition to  
the numismatics of Essex if it could be written up.

The coat of arms suggested by D&H on the reverse of this token is a problem.  
Watchmakers, specifically, were never a London guild. The Clockmakers' Guild of the  
City of London was recognized in 1631, but its coat of arms is a mismatch for that shown  
on the D&H Essex no.35 (this Guild survives today, with about one third members being  
watch- or clock-makers, one third being antiquarian collectors or dealers of clocks or  
watches, and one third others; patrimony remaining a means of entry into this London  
guild). These so-called Watchmakers' arms appear on no other eighteenth century issue  
in D&H, nor on any seventeenth century issue in Williamson.<sup>3</sup> A watchmakers' guild did  
exist at Coventry, has no known official coat of arms that the author could find, and it is  
hard to imagine a connexion between the city of Lady Godiva and this little Essex town  
of Maldon. It is therefore possible that the reverse of this token is actually an entirely  
imaginary composition, although the author sincerely hopes that someone will write and  
prove him wrong.<sup>4</sup>

On the obverse of D&H Essex no.35, we have a traditional piece of heraldry, halved arms with two different designs in each half (*Party per pale*). Here indeed are the arms of the Borough of Maldon, although these are not as ancient as, say, Dover (Kent), where two full shields were bisected and hybridized so that only half of a boat might be shown on one side of the vertical division (i.e., *dimidiated*). Nonetheless, here at Maldon we have the lions *passant guardant* of England,<sup>5</sup> and on the other side is a coastal craft that is not very different from the *Dawn* which is maintained as an historical Thames barge, home-ported at Maldon, to this day.



**Figure 2:The D&H Essex no.35.**  
Image courtesy of Falmouth Stamp and Coin, Falmouth, Massachusetts, USA.

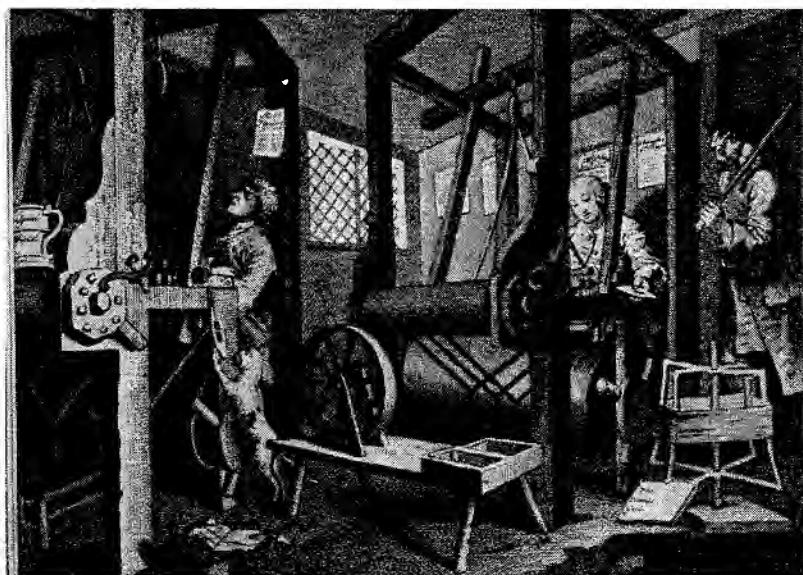
Visitors to Maldon today will find a nice little town with good walks along the south bank of the estuary and much good boat-spotting. The mediaeval parish church on the high

ground (All Saints') is well worth a visit, a victorian church (St.Mary the Virgin) is near the Blackwater and has a 12<sup>th</sup> century foundation plus a few 14<sup>th</sup> century bits. The remnants of St.Peter's church houses the Plume Library, which is of national importance having been completed upon the death of its eponymous patron in 1704. Scattered Georgian houses and a nice railway station of 1846 are other sights. The seafood and shellfish, especially, are excellent.

### Footnotes

1. A completely unbiased view of the author, who is an Essex man ! See also: Griffiths B (Ed and Transl) *The Battle of Maldon*. Anglo-saxon Books, Chippenham UK. ISBN 0-9516209-0-8, 1991. Reprinted 1992, 1993, 1996.
2. Fox AW. The Warley Issue (D&H Essex 36-38a). *CTCJ* 2004; **IX(3)**: 30-35.
3. Williamson GC. *Trade tokens issued in the Seventeenth Century*. London: Seaby, reprinted 1967; three vols.
4. In the interests of avoidance of conflict of interest, the author discloses that he is a Liveryman *guardant* of a potentially competing guild, the Worshipful Society of Apothecaries of London, and is also a Fellow of an analogous organization, the Royal College of Physicians of London.
5. This no longer requires a royal warrant; see: Fox-Davies JP *A Complete Guide to Heraldry*. London: Nelson. Reprinted 1985, London: Bonanza Books, see p.140, footnote 72.

\*\*\*\*\*



Interior of an Eighteenth Century Weaver's Workshop

## Dublin 29 *Bis* & Dublin 158 *Bis II*: Two New Varieties of Camac Tokens

Gregg A. Silvis

### Harp with Five Strings

#### 1. Dublin 29 *Bis*

**Obverse:** As Dublin 29.

**Reverse:** Unlisted, but very similar to those of Dublin 39 and Dublin 43 *Bis*. (Dublin 89 shares the same reverse with 43 *Bis*). These reverses differ from all other 1792 **HMC<sub>o</sub>** cyphers in that the flourishes of the cypher do not extend below an imaginary line drawn between the first **C** of the first **CAMAC** and the second **C** of the second **CAMAC**. The **HMC** portion of these cyphers is identical to those on the 1793 Camac tokens, Dublin 235-244. Diagnostic for Dublin 29 *Bis* is the placement of the “o” to the extreme left of the **C**. The reverse cypher for Dublin 29 *Bis* is complete, i.e., **HMC<sub>o</sub>**; on the reverses of Dublin 39 and 43 *Bis*, the “o” is missing. A long, arcing die crack extends from the first **A** of the second **CAMAC** through the **MC** of the cypher to **F** of **HALFPENNY**. Repunching, probably an **N**, is visible below the first **N** of **HALFPENNY**.

**Edge:** No. 2

**Reverse Rotation:** Slightly CW, but in the range of normal. On Dublin 29, the rotation is 30 degrees CCW.



## Harp with Nine Strings

### 2. Dublin 158 Bis II

**Obverse:** As Dublin 158 Bis. Strongly clashed obverse, with AC of CAMAC visible below M of PARLIAMENT.

**Reverse:** As Dublin 167.

**Edge:** No. 2

**Reverse Rotation:** Normal

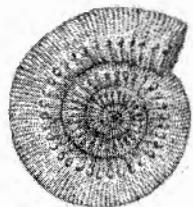


Jerry Bobbe very graciously provided his assistance and guidance in the confirmation of these new varieties.

.....



Edmund Burke 1729-1797  
Irish-born statesman, orator, and philosopher



*Stephanoceras humphriesianum*

## What I'm Reading (A Review of *The Map That Changed the World*)

Tom Fredette

There once was an ichthyosaurus,  
Who lived when the earth was all porous.  
But he fainted with shame,  
When he first heard his name,  
And departed a long time before us.

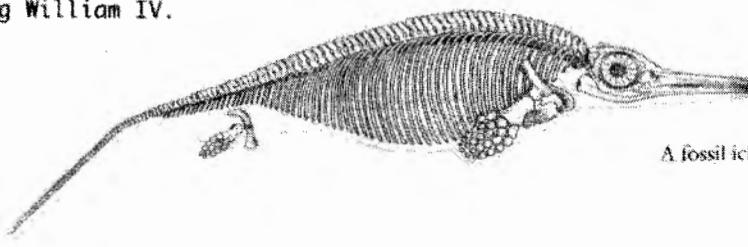


*Ammonites sublaevis*, from  
Smith's own  
collection, found  
during his tour of  
Northamptonshire.

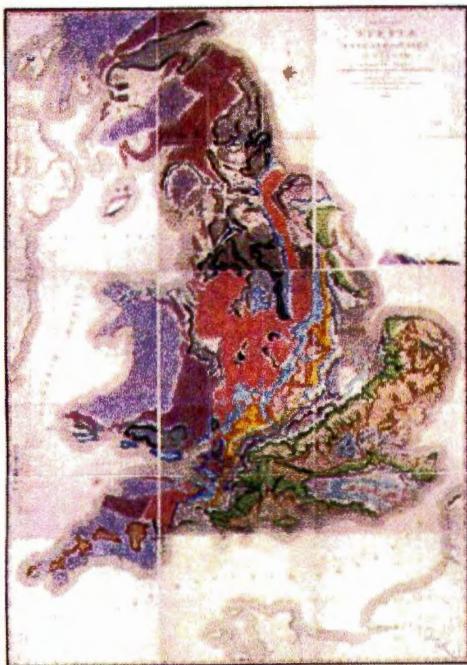
Coming across an illustration of this fossilized creature in Simon Winchester's book *The Map That Changed the World*, reminded me of this nonsense rhyme by Isabel Frances Bellows which, as a child, I had committed to memory. It helped me make a connection with the subject of this book, William Smith, known as the father of modern geology. And while he was born in Oxfordshire on March 23, 1769 (which pre-dates our late eighteenth century token interest) much of the work with which he was involved took place in the late eighteenth to the early nineteenth century. One will find, however, upon reading Winchester's book a story that has the eighteenth century in England written all over it.

Smith's connection to our hobby interest has to do with the fact that he was a surveyor of and digger of canals. Much of the early part of this book deals with the whole business of British industrial development between 1793 and 1815 and the importance of creating additional water roads across the English landscape. Because of this occupation, Smith was able to notice fossils in the layers of dirt and rock as the canals were dug. He became interested in these layers of dirt and rock and in his travels noticed that they rose and fell as he followed them across the English countryside. He also began to discover that by studying fossil samples dug from the soil he could date the layers. In doing so, he began to realize that what was under the part of the earth that he could see was even more important and interesting. Canals helped him with this realization. And how many tokens in the late eighteenth century series depict canals, canal building, inclined planes, canal boats and so forth?

As he did with *The Professor and the Madman* (see: CTCC Journal, Issue #19, Spring, 2001, "The Tokens of Samuel Johnson"), Simon Winchester wraps us in the life of this great man, and we follow his story through many years of travel, examination, supposition, experimentation, argument and poverty as he finally attains the goal of making the first comprehensive map of what is under the earth. It cost him twenty-two years of his life and much heartache in order to accomplish this feat. It wasn't until he was in his early sixties that he was finally recognized for his work by the scientific community and by King William IV.

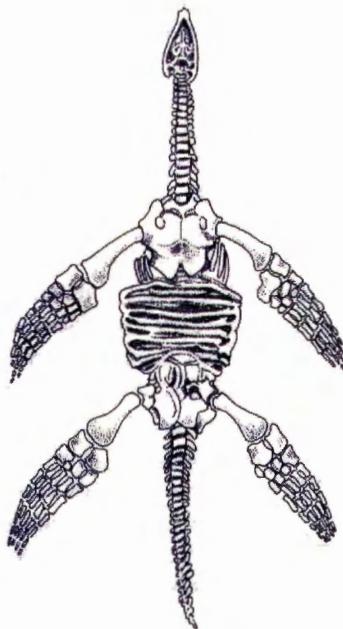


A fossil ichthyosaur.



Smith's geological map of England.  
Different colors represent rocks of different  
geologic periods of time.

A  
DELINEATION  
OF THE  
STRATA  
OF  
ENGLAND AND WALES  
WITH PART OF  
SCOTLAND



A fossil plesiosaur.

## William Smith

Winchester's book is lavishly (and lovingly) illustrated with drawings of the types of fossils collected by Smith in his travels and used by him in his process of discovery. It contains maps and charts that may confuse the reader at first, but anyone who "loves his condensers" will accept the challenge. The author loves his subject as we do our tokens and this love shines through the prose.

William Smith's map changed forever the way we would look at our world. It was a great scientific feat and discovery. Today a number of medals are awarded for geologic discovery. One of these is named after William Smith - a fitting honor and a tie-in to our hobby.

*The Map That Changed the World* (HarperCollinsPublishers. 330pp., \$13.95) is available in both hard and soft cover editions. This writer feels that it is relevant to our hobby not only because of its subject matter, but because the reading of it helps us understand better the time period in which our tokens were created and used.

Web site used:

[http://evolution.berkeley.edu/evolibrary/article/0\\_0\\_0/history\\_11](http://evolution.berkeley.edu/evolibrary/article/0_0_0/history_11)

## MY FIRST CONDER TOKEN

It was 1967 and I was a sophomore in college living in Mobile Alabama. The Beatles, Beach Boys and Byrds were hot on the radio and gas was 30 cents a gallon. To earn spending money I worked part time at a camera and coin shop, interesting because I had collected coins for several years but knew almost nothing about cameras. I was able to sell film and take in film for developing so I managed to get by. I did once "repair" a customer's jammed expensive German camera by accidentally dropping it on the counter, but that is another story altogether.

Anyway, the Conder token came to be because of a girl. I met her at a high school football game and was smitten by her looks, intelligence and charm. She was an admirer of all things British, especially Mods, miniskirts and Twiggy. I was looking for an interesting present for her and spotted an odd coin in the shop trays that was obviously old and British. I bought it from the shop for a dollar, precisely my hourly wage.



Warwickshire 382 (Scarce)

Image by Gary Siro

My plan was to put the coin into a silver bezel for her, but true love never runs smooth. She left me for another, but at least I still had this neat old coin. I was fascinated by the design and the lettered edge but had no idea what it was for several years. Finally a piece in coin publication identified it as a Conder token. Knowing this, I was able to spot more occasionally on world coin lists and began a very modest collection of low grade inexpensive tokens. When Russell Stadt sold his large collection in the early 1990's I bought some nicer tokens, was officially hooked, and bought a Dalton and Hamer. Just looking through the DH fascinated me and when the CTCC was organized in 1996 I eagerly joined.

My original Wilkinson token was stolen along with some other coins many years ago but it led me to a great hobby with endless tokens to collect, friendly dealers and fellow collectors.

I invite other collectors to send in the story of their first Conder token for the Journal.

Michael Grogan

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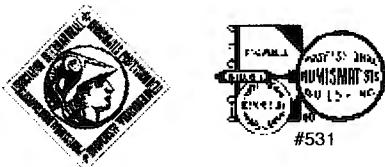
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Staffordshire 18. Lichfield. <i>Choice EF+.</i> (\$125)	\$100
Suffolk 10 (R). Penny. <i>Ipswich. 200 struck. Unc.</i> (\$400)	\$325
Sussex 29 (RR). Horsham. <i>Choice Unc.</i> (\$450)	\$365
Warwickshire 3 (Scarce). 18d. <i>Good EF.</i> (\$250)	\$200
Warks 6 (Scarce). Penny. <i>County. A Kempson issue. Caesar's tower, a ruin. EF; even red tone.</i> (\$150)	\$125
Warks 133 (R). Hallan's. <i>Ex Bobbe "Gem Unc."</i> (\$250)	\$200
Warks 315 (R). Meriden. An archer. <i>Choice Unc.</i> (\$500)	\$400
Worcestershire 1 (R). Penny, by Skidmore. <i>County. A dove on a lyre. Ex Bobbe. "Gem bronzed proof."</i> (\$500)	\$400
Worcestershire 26a (R). Kidderminster. <i>Shield of arms, Choice Unc; evenly toned; slight flan flaws.</i> (\$150)	\$125
Worcs 43 (Scarce). Scalloped flan, gilt. <i>Unc.</i> (\$125)	\$100
SCOTLAND. Ayrshire 3. By Milton. 576 struck. <i>Bronzed Proof, choice FDC.</i> (\$200)	\$165
IRELAND. Dublin 324. H. S. & Co. <i>EF+.</i> (\$125)	\$100
IRELAND. Dublin 336 (Scarce). <i>EF+.</i> (\$125)	\$100
William Till, et al. London, 1834. Set of private issue tokens (4 piece lot) <i>Choice Uncirculated; rarely offered.</i> (\$350)	\$275
J. Henry, ca 1879. Penny token. <i>Choice Unc.</i> (\$75)	\$60
Warwickshire. W. J. Davis. New Birmingham token. 1894. The New General Hospital. 51 struck. <i>EF+.</i> (\$100)	\$75
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### A few important books on tokens, recently acquired:

Samuel, R. T. *British Tokens, Articles and Notes from The Bazaar, Exchange and Mart and Journal of the Household, December 29, 1880 through August 28, 1889.* With a concordance between numbers assigned by Samuel and the numbers assigned by R. Dalton and S. H. Hamer in *The Provincial Token Coinage of the 18th Century.* Davissons. Cold Spring. 1994. Softcover, one of ten issued thus. Copy 92 (total edition was 100 with 10 copies issued in soft cover). First published as a periodical in London. Samuel published extensive details on over 1100 tokens discussing issuers, designs, minting information. Bell made extensive use of Samuel in the volumes he published. Rare, seldom available and indispensable for collectors of the 18th century token series. *Almost as new but the first two pages are partly loose; the volume is perfect bound and there is not much paper edge to catch the spine. The "as new" hardcover copy in Auction 23 sold for \$350, a price that is typical for this important and scarce reference. This copy could be custom bound for \$75 or so and I am willing to make the arrangements.* \$200

Bell, R.C. Five key works; detailed illustrated discussions. *Fine copies, some with minor tears on the dust jackets; scarce.* \$250  
 • *The Building Medalets of Kempson and Skidmore, 1796-1797.* 1978m 184 pages. (As new condition)  
 • *Commercial Coins, 1787-1804.* 1963, 318 pages.  
 • *Political and Commemorative Pieces Simulating Tradesmen's Tokens, 1770-1802.* No. 170 of 200. Signed by author. 285 pages.  
 • *Specious Tokens and those struck for General Circulation 1784-1804.* 1968, 258 pages.  
 • *Tradesmen's Tickets and Private Tokens, 1785-1819.* 1966, 316 pages.

Two earlier editions of Dalton and Hamer, *The Provincial Token Coinage of the 18th Century.*  
 • *Quarterman, Lawrence, Mass. 1977.* Second printing. Gray cloth. *Very good copy, fresh contents.* \$75  
 • *Davissons. 1990 update.* Maroon cloth. *Fine copy, fresh contents, spine a bit shaky. (The binder did not use a heavy enough cloth strip for the spine, a problem that has been eliminated in the latest edition.)* \$110

Waters, A. *Notes on Eighteenth Century Tokens.* Seaby. 1954. 53 pages of background notes and details. Essential for any token library. Card covers. *Fine and fresh but the covers have some minor tears.* \$35

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